

FLD-413

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Hrabuvka Airfield Near Moravska Ostrava

EVALUATION 25X1X

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 7 August 1953

REFERENCES

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PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. A military airfield was located south of Moravska Ostrava (P 50/O 59), about 500 meters southwest of Hrabuvka (P 50/O 58). Prior to October 1952, the field was in the same status as in 1945. Several low wooden quartering buildings outside the area of the field were replaced by eight two-story brick buildings, located 600 to 700 meters northwest of the field along Biestra Street. No runway, taxiways or aircraft revetments existed at the field. Three corrugated sheet metal hangars with considerably vaulted roofs were on the northern edge and a brick hangar was on the southern edge of the field. The flight control station was housed in a former restaurant 300 to 400 meters from the field, at the intersection of Hrabuvka and Biestra Streets. The field measured about 1.5 km from east to west and about 1 km from north to south.¹
2. The field was occupied by about 20 planes among which biplanes were definitely observed. Czechs stated that Yak-11s were also stationed there. Throughout the day in favorable weather, there was air activity by about 10 planes. After 1950/1951, flying was also practiced in the evening. In the summer and fall of 1952, flights were occasionally made throughout the night. Usually, air activity was conducted by individual planes and small formations which practiced take offs and landings and changing formations. After a large-scale propaganda campaign for premilitary training, a training course for civilians, after work hours, was started at the field in the early summer of 1951. The course was interrupted in the winter of 1951/1952 and again resumed at an intensified rate in the spring of 1952.
3. In 1951, the barracks buildings northeast of the field were occupied by Czechoslovakian Air Force soldiers who wore gray blue uniforms, blouses with open collars, blue shirts and black ties. Groups of 30 to 40 men were repeatedly observed marching between the barracks installation and the field.²

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1. ☐ Comment. The descriptive data on Moravska Ostrava airfield generally agrees with previous reports.

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2. ☐ Comment. From available information it was previously assumed that the airfield was used as an intermediate landing field by civil aviation and as a training field for premilitary training. The information in the present report that the barracks installation northwest of the field was occupied by Czechoslovakian Air Force units and that Yak-11s were allegedly stationed at the field indicates that a Czechoslovak training unit was also stationed there.

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